disadvantage of such heirs to repartition the fields among their younger brothers and sisters. If they did, they would be unable to work all the fields or receive 50 per cent of the harvest; they would receive only the crops raised on their own fields. 428 578

Another case will illustrate how temporary division of the fields of the deceased (or living parents) in Caticugan caused rancor and dissension among the heirs. One father, while he was alive, divided his land between his two sons. Shortly after his death a flood ruined part of the elder son's field near the Mantuyop River. The division had been acceptable to both sons until the flood. After the flood the elder son demanded repartition of the land, arguing his field now was less valuable than that farmed by his younger brother. This quarrel smouldered during my entire residence.

When parents become very old they often live with married children. Sometimes the children are given permission to farm their parents' fields but the latter continue to share in the harvest; the children are their parents' tenants. An old woman in Caticugan had divided her land between her daughter and spinster sister. She still received part of the harvest each year from her field that was cultivated by her son-in-law. It was understood that on her spinster sister's death the latter's property would revert to her niece (i.e., daughter of her elder sister). Other elderly persons retain part 388 ● 428

of their land as insurance against old age and sickness. They state that this property will be given to those who care for them during their last days--usually their children. 428 888

Permanent Division of Property

The permanent division of property is usually made after the deceased parent's hobkas. A hobkas is a memorial service on the first anniversary of an adult's death that normally consists of a novena (prayers at the family altar for nine consecutive evenings) and maybe a memorial mass in the poblacion church. The tenth day of the novena a feast is held in honor of the deceased person. The hobkas costs money; a pig or goat must be slaughtered, food and drink purchased, and if a memorial mass is held a payment is made to the church. These expenses are deducted from the deceased's property before the permanent division is made. If the property were permanently divided before the hobkas, disputes might arise over sharing the cost of the memorial service. 428 765

Sometimes the permanent division of one's property is made after the kaliwasan, the tenth day after the deceased's funeral. (A kaliwasan is a novena that begins the day of one's death with a feast on the tenth day.) The kaliwasan is another expense connected with death in the barrio and the cost is deducted from the deceased's property. In one case in Catiogan a woman's property was permanently divided after her kaliwasan but her heirs